UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/866
17 September 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 17 SEPTEMBER 1998 FROM THE CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to enclose a statement of the Permanent Mission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations on the action of the Security Council with regard to the satellite launch by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on 31 August 1998.

I would be grateful if you could have the present letter and the enclosed statement circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) KIM Chang Guk
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

98-27335 (E) 170998

/...

Annex

Statement of the Permanent Mission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations dated 17 September 1998

On 15 September 1998, the Security Council of the United Nations, at the request of Japan, discussed the satellite launch by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on 31 August 1998 and issued a press statement by the President of the Security Council expressing concern and urging the Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea to refrain from a repetition of the act.

The satellite launch is not a matter to be discussed in the Security Council, nor is there any precedent for such a discussion.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea has never been informed in advance by any countries, including Japan, which launched satellites in the past.

Judging from this, the mere fact that those countries gathered in the Security Council and slandered the satellite launch of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea can be construed as nothing but a peculiar phenomenon.

The Permanent Mission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations considers the action of the Security Council with regard to our satellite launch as a grave threat to the sovereignty of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and resolutely rejects it.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea will continue its full-fledged use of outer space for peaceful purposes, no matter what other countries may say about it.

UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/867
17 September 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 17 SEPTEMBER 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

The Security Council is in receipt of a letter dated 9 September 1998 from Judge Gabrielle Kirk McDonald, President of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and, by reference, of letter dated 1 September 1998 from Prosecutor Louise Arbour to Judge McDonald.

Judge McDonald reminds the Security Council of the continuing failure of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to uphold its commitments under international law and the Dayton/Paris Agreement. Without taking a view as to the analysis of Judge McDonald, Bosnia and Herzegovina, as a signatory to the Dayton/Paris Agreement, has a direct interest in addressing any non-compliance, or violation, of the Agreement.

In order to be able to accurately inform and advise our Government, we respectfully request the Security Council to indicate as to whether, in fact, it does consider such non-compliance to have occurred, and, if so, we wish to understand what steps the Council will take as a consequence. As Judge McDonald has noted, the Security Council has already indicated in the past its view regarding non-compliance and has determined to remain seized of the situation. Judge McDonald, in her letter, emphasizes: "The Security Council created the International Tribunal, determining that such a measure was appropriate and necessary to bring about the restoration of international peace and security. The achievement of this goal, and thus of the International Tribunal's mandate, requires the complete support of the Security Council. States, collectively and individually, have assisted the International Tribunal in the face of recalcitrance by other States in the former Yugoslavia, acting through multinational armed bodies to force compliance with the International Tribunal ... Accordingly, the International Tribunal is dependent on the Security Council taking the necessary action to ensure the compliance of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. The conduct of the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, therefore, displays contempt for the Security Council. Not only does the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia consider itself to be outside international law, it has become a haven for fugitives from international law'.

As Judge McDonald notes, "The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, as a signatory to the Dayton Agreement, is further bound to cooperate with the International Tribunal (Framework Agreement, article 9; annex 1-A, article 10; annex 7, article 3(2)). In the modern international community, such contempt for the authority of the Security Council and international law should not be countenanced". We emphasize, that if the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) is in fact in violation of the Dayton/Paris Agreement, as well as various Security Council resolutions and international law, then it is imperative for the integrity of the Peace Agreement that the Security Council undertake the appropriate measures and fulfil its obligation to the Peace Agreement which it has endorsed (Security Council resolution 1031 (1995)).

May I ask for your kind assistance in circulating the present letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Muhamed SACIRBEY
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/868
17 September 1998
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

LETTER DATED 15 SEPTEMBER 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF AUSTRIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to bring to your attention the statement by the Presidency of the European Union on Bosnia and Herzegovina, issued on 15 September 1998.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ernst SUCHARIPA
Permanent Representative of Austria
to the United Nations

98-27341 (E) 170998 170998

Annex

[Original: English and French]

Statement by the Presidency of the European Union on Bosnia and Herzegovina issued on 15 September 1998

The European Union expresses its satisfaction with the peaceful and orderly course of the general elections held in Bosnia and Herzegovina on 12 and 13 September 1998. The holding of these elections in a positive climate was an important step in the process of implementation of the Dayton Accords, on the road to enhanced stability, normality and reconciliation in that country.

The European Union is particularly satisfied with the high voter turnout, which gives proof of the growing democratic maturity of the population of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and with the positive and constructive role played by the police and by the media.

The European Union would like to commend the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe for the professional preparation and organization of these elections under very difficult circumstances. The European Union was also involved in these endeavours through bilateral contributions of its member States, through financial support provided by the Union itself and through the participation of the European Community Monitoring Mission.

The European Union hopes that the election results will become available soon and that they will substantiate the initial signs of broad electoral support for the moderate, pro Dayton and tolerance-minded parties and candidates.

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/869
17 September 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 16 SEPTEMBER 1998 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to report that the Taliban offensive forces have attacked, occupied and looted the Consulate-General and the Cultural House of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the city of Bamyan. A local staff member working at the Cultural House was set afire and killed by the Taliban and there is no word on the whereabouts of the rest of the local staff. The Taliban's gross violations of the recognized principles of international law, for a second time, against the diplomatic premises of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Afghanistan, despite the condemnation of their first criminal act in Mazar-e-Sharif by the Security Council, is a clear act of provocation by the Taliban, as well as a display of their contempt for the international community.

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran is seriously concerned about the general situation in Afghanistan and, in particular, about the Iranian nationals held in captivity by the Taliban. The reported mass killing of civilians by the Taliban on ethnic and religious grounds has continued since 8 August 1998 and has now found a serious and tragic dimension in Bamyan, a city largely populated by Shiite Muslims.

In this situation, which has raised international outrage over the Taliban's blatant violation of the very basic rules and principles of international humanitarian law, the leaders of the Taliban have stubbornly displayed no regard whatsoever for the demand by the international community, in particular by the Security Council and the Secretary-General, to stop this carnage. Procrastination and foot-dragging by the Taliban and their foreign supporters, coupled with emphasis on the technicalities of dispatching a fact-finding mission to determine the fate of the Iranian diplomats, which the United Nations felt necessary in context of Afghanistan, led to the situation at hand where all save the Taliban had to condemn and express outrage over the murder. On the other hand, as in the case of the inhuman murder of the Iranian diplomats in Mazar-e-Sharif, Taliban leaders can conveniently claim, with a sense of impunity, to have had no knowledge or control over their members when they commit a war crime that becomes public and thus undeniable.

In light of the foregoing, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran fears that, in a not too distant future, the international community will be faced with yet other situations that will give cause for the expression of indignation over other Taliban crimes, which, unlike crimes committed against civilians in northern Afghanistan, cannot be hidden from international attention. In this context and on the basis of the statement on Afghanistan by the President of the Security Council on 15 September 1998 (S/PRST/1998/27), I request that the Security Council urgently adopt effective measures, under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, to take all necessary measures, including the dispatch of a mission, to stop mass killing of civilians in northern Afghanistan, secure the release of Iranian nationals held captive in Afghanistan, demand that the murderers of the Iranian diplomats in Mazar-e-Sharif are brought to justice, condemn the attack, occupation and looting of the Consulate-General and Cultural House of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Bamyan and prosecute the perpetrators.

The Islamic Republic of Iran is making every effort to resolve these problems through diplomatic channels and hopes that, by the adoption of resolute and effective measures on the part of the Security Council, peace and security may be restored in the region without the need for further action.

I shall be grateful if you could have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hadi NEJAD-HOSSEINIAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

UNITED
NATIONS

S



Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/870
21 September 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

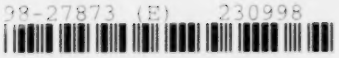
LETTER DATED 16 SEPTEMBER 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ERITREA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you a letter from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Eritrea addressed to the Secretary-General of the Union of African Parliaments in response to the Union's resolution on the Eritrea/Ethiopia conflict, adopted at its meeting in Niamey, Niger, from 18 to 20 August 1998 (see S/1998/805).

I should be grateful if you would kindly circulate the present letter and its annex as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Haile MENKERIOS
Ambassador, Permanent Representative

98-27873 (E) 230998



/...

Letter dated 2 September from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Eritrea addressed to the Secretary-General of the Union of African Parliaments

It is with disbelief that the Government of Eritrea reads the resolution adopted by the thirty-fifth session of the Executive Committee and the twenty first Conference of the Union of African Parliaments, which held its meeting Niamey, Niger, from 18 to 20 August 1998.

The Government of the State of Eritrea takes it for granted that any responsible Pan-African Organization committed to the cause of conflict resolution and the promotion and fostering of peace in our continent, as well the welfare of Africans, will address the issues surrounding any conflict wit seriousness, objectivity and impartiality. It also assumes that any decision and recommendations made will be reached on the basis of the principles of th charter, as well as the decisions of and precedents established by, the Organization of African Unity (OAU). Thirdly, the Government of Eritrea hold the view that the Conference should have independently verified the facts surrounding the conflict rather than depending on the submissions made by onl one party to the conflict before making a determination or issuing a resoluti This could easily have been done by contacting the Government of Eritrea or a of its representatives abroad.

The Government of the State of Eritrea is convinced that, by limiting itself to information supplied and interpretations given to the various documents of OAU, the United Nations and ACP-EU by one of the parties to the conflict, the Conference has not been able to acquire an accurate picture of conflict or the full thrust, purposes and meaning of the various recommendations. It was in fact mislead to reach wrong conclusions.

The Conference was, for example, not fully apprised of the fact that the root cause of the conflict has been the violation of the territorial integrit and sovereignty of Eritrea by Ethiopia; that, in spite of this, Eritrea was determined, and to this day remains determined, to resolve the conflict peacefully on the basis of OAU resolution AHG/RES. 16(2), which sanctifies colonial boundaries, while Ethiopia has rejected that resolution and has adamantly refused to accept complete and unconditional cessation of hostiliti Additionally, the Conference needed to know that Ethiopia declared war on Eritrea on 13 May 1998, imposed an air blockade and maritime access to Eritre ports and is conducting mass expulsion, indiscriminate arrests and arbitrary detentions of Eritreans.

The Government of Eritrea is also convinced that the Conference had not been properly and honestly apprised of the several issues that relate to the conflict. The following points provide compelling evidence:

1. Operative paragraph 2 of the Unions' resolution refers to the "findings" the OAU Ministerial Committee. It would have been to the Conference's advant if it had known that the OAU Ministerial Committee has not yet issued any "findings", since, in the words of the introductory note presented by the Chairman, on behalf of the OAU Ministerial Committee, to the Eritrean and

Ethiopian Ministers on the occasion of the consultations held separately with the two delegations on 1 August 1998 in Ouagadougou: "the Committee of Ministers is at present endeavouring to prepare a set of recommendations, which it hopes will contribute to the search for a peaceful, just and lasting solution ...". The document also stresses that the Committee "shall wholeheartedly endeavour to propose recommendations, which we deem to be fair ...".

This is conclusive and compelling evidence that the Committee had not yet, definitely, at the time of the Conference, made any determination. In this connection, it must be pointed out that the Ministerial Committee is a body created by the Committee of the Heads of State and Government and, consequently, its sole mandate is to submit a report, albeit containing a set of recommendations, to that Committee.

2. The mandate of the facilitators was to submit, to the parties concerned, a framework for the resolution of the conflict which would be acceptable to both parties and not to make recommendations. This too had been made clear by the Eritrean Government on several occasions, including at the OAU summit at Ouagadougou. The Eritrean reservation to this effect had been accepted by the summit.

3. A careful reading of Security Council resolution 1177 (1998) of 26 June 1998 will indicate that it does not in fact endorse "the recommendation of the facilitators".

It is thus erroneous and misleading to suggest that any of these documents warrant the adoption by the Conference of such a partial and arbitrary resolution.

Even worse, the Conference seems to have found it proper to issue a call to the international community on the basis of an allegation included in the resolution of the House of People's Representative of the Federal Republic of Ethiopia. Without giving the allegation the importance it does not deserve, the Eritrean Government wishes to emphatically state that such an action by the Conference is not only myopic and irresponsible, but also jeopardizes the cause of peace. It also casts a grave doubt on the credibility of the Conference and of your organization.

The Government of Eritrea is not worried by the possible investigation of war crimes. It will stand on its record and I hope that you will agree that Ethiopia too will have to stand on its record and be answerable to this and other charges. On the other hand, the Government of Eritrea cannot believe that your organization was unaware of the horrendous human rights violations carried out by the Ethiopian Government, including arbitrary arrests, detentions, deportations and expulsions, as well as the cruel, degrading, humiliating and inhuman treatment of more than 20,000 Eritreans and Ethiopians of Eritrean origin. That would have singled you out as an exceptionally uninformed member of the international community. That you did not endeavour to balance the resolution by making reference to the several violations of international law by the Ethiopian Government leads the Eritrean Government to question your impartiality.

This is only a fragment of the critical information relevant to the conflict that the Conference needed to possess before rushing to judgement. T Government of Eritrea thus believes that the passing of such a resolution is counterproductive to the promotion of peace that the Conference had hoped to contribute to, and regrets to inform you that such decisions will only encoura Ethiopia to pursue its aggressive policies and continue to violate the human rights of Eritreans and Ethiopians of Eritrean origin.

The Government of Eritrea takes this opportunity to invite you and other representatives of the African Parliamentary Union to visit both Eritrea and Ethiopia to verify the truth for future purposes.

I should appreciate it if you would kindly bring the present letter to th attention of the participants of the Conference.

(Signed) Haile WELDENSAE
Minister for Foreign Affai

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/871
21 September 1998
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 20 SEPTEMBER 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 19 September 1998 from Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq, calling attention to the hostile and provocative actions carried out by the United States and other naval forces stationed in the Arabian Gulf against vessels bound for Iraq and to the harmful consequences of these actions, which include increased suffering for the Iraqi civilian population.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Letter dated 19 September 1998 from the Deputy Prime Minister and Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the President of the Security Council

I refer to our letters addressed to you, the most recent of which was that of 5 July 1998 (S/1998/613), giving detailed information concerning the great many hostile practices and provocative actions illegally undertaken by the United States and other naval forces stationed in the Arabian Gulf. These actions are exemplified, in particular, by the arbitrary searches of vessels bound for Iraq that are carried out in violation of the principles and norms of the Charter of the United Nations and in breach of the relevant Security Council resolutions. Enormous economic and other damage has been done by the stopping of the vessels in question. The climate of disruption that has been created has been a direct cause of the rise in insurance and carriage costs that has had an adverse impact on the situation of members of the civilian population as it concerns the possibility of convenient and assured access to foodstuffs, medication and humanitarian requirements, and it has thus exacerbated their suffering.

The Republic of Iraq, as it condemns and protests against these hostile practices, affirms the fact that, in accordance with the principles and norms of international law and, in particular, those of State responsibility, it reserves its right to take all legal measures to seek compensation for the direct and indirect damage sustained by Iraq and its people as a result of these practices.

I request you to have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Tariq AZIZ
Deputy Prime Minister
and Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Iraq

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/872
21 September 1998
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

IDENTICAL LETTERS DATED 20 SEPTEMBER 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that violations of Iraq's airspace by United States aircraft continued between 1 and 15 September 1998 and that the aircraft in question carried out reconnaissance and engaged in acts of provocation, as set forth in the annex hereto.

Your intervention is requested with a view to bringing a halt to actions that, as flagrant violations of the Charter of the United Nations and of international law, pose a threat to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Iraq.

These actions continue to alarm the civilian population and to cause serious damage to private and public property. The Republic of Iraq affirms its right to seek legal compensation for the damage being inflicted on the Iraqi people and the Iraqi State by these actions.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Permanent Representative

98-27699 (E) 220998 220998

/...

Annex

Violations and damage caused, 1-15 September 1998

1. In the northern region 112 sorties were flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 9,000 metres over the following cities and towns: Dohuk, Mosul, Amadiyah, Aqrah, Zakho, Irbil and Tall Afar.

2. In the southern region 672 sorties were flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 9,000 metres over the following Iraqi cities and towns: Nasiriyah, Samawah, Artawi, Ushbayjah, Jalibah, Salman, Busayyah, Qurnah, Chabaish, Shinafiyah, Rumaythah, Basrah, Hayy, Shatrah, Qal'at Sukkar, Maymunah, Abu Sukhayr, Rifa'i, Najaf, Qal'at Salih, Kut, Mu'aniyah, Nukhayb, Shaykh Sa'd, Ali al-Gharbi, Jabal Sanam, Diwaniyah, Lasaf and Safwan.

3. Ten violations were committed by TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at altitudes of 20,000 metres and at speeds of 600 kilometres per hour.

4. At 1400 hours on 25 August a naval vessel flying the flag of the United States approached the freighter Poland. Information was requested concerning the freighter, its cargo and its flag and port of registration. The vessel then left in the direction of the open sea.

5. At 1028, 1044 and 1325 hours on 5 September United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace over Umm Qasr and Faw.

6. At 1100 hours on 6 September United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace over Umm Qasr.

7. At 1210 hours on 6 September a formation of United States aircraft broke the sound barrier over the Jabal Maqlub area of Mosul.

UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/873
21 September 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 14 SEPTEMBER 1998 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to refer to the command of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF).

Following the usual consultations, it is my intention to appoint Brigadier-General Cameron Ross of Canada to the post of Force Commander of UNDOF. General Ross will be promoted to the rank of Major-General before assuming the post. He will replace Major-General David Stapleton of Ireland who completed his tour of duty on 31 August 1998.

I should be grateful if you would bring this matter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) Kofi A. ANNAN

98-27659 (E) 210998

/...

Annex

Curriculum Vitae

Brigadier-General H. Cameron Ross, OMM, CD
Commander, Land Force Atlantic Area

Brigadier-General Cameron Ross was born in Ottawa, Ontario on 8 February 1949. He attended Royal Roads Military College in Victoria, British Columbia and the Royal Military College in Kingston, Ontario graduating in 1973 with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science.

An armoured officer, he joined his regiment, the Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians), in Calgary in 1973. His first regimental tour included an exciting tour as an armoured troop leader during the 1974 war in Cyprus. On return he traded his Blue Beret and weapon for a saddle and spurs and commanded the Regiment's Ceremonial Mounted Troop. As a Captain, he held appointments in Brigade HQ in Calgary and from 1978 to 1981 with reconnaissance and tank squadrons of the Royal Canadian Dragoons on NATO duty in Lahr, Germany.

After promotion to Major in 1981, he returned to his regiment in Calgary to command an armoured squadron. He attended a year long French language course in Calgary and St. Jean, Quebec, was a student at the Canadian Forces Command and Staff College, Toronto, Ontario, and then spent a year at the Canadian Forces Staff School as a syndicate director.

On promotion to Lieutenant-Colonel in 1986, he finished his tour at the Staff School as the Director of Studies followed in 1988 by a return to Calgary as the Base Administration Officer. From 1989 to 1991, he commanded his regiment. In 1991, he was posted to Army HQ in Montreal as the Senior Staff Officer Operational Training.

Promoted to Colonel in 1992, he was assigned to United Nations duties in Angola, Africa. He spent five months living with the guerrilla faction UNITA until posted to the capital, Luanda as the mission Chief of Staff when the country reverted to a civil war in January 1993. In April 1993, he was seconded to United Nations HQ in New York for a three-month period. It was in this capacity that he returned to Africa to develop the concept of operations for the missions eventually deployed to Uganda and Rwanda and to provide peacekeeping advice to the Organization of African Unity in Ethiopia.

From 1993 to 1995, Colonel Ross was posted to Ottawa as the Director of Operations (J3 Ops) for the Canadian Forces. As such he was responsible for the coordination of domestic and international operations including peacekeeping. He returned twice to Africa to provide peacekeeping advice in South Africa, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Zambia, and Tanzania. From July 1995 until June 1996, he commanded Canadian Forces Base Edmonton, Alberta during its construction and development phase in preparation for the troops that were deploying from the closed Bases of Calgary and Chilliwack.

In June 1996, he was promoted to Brigadier-General and assumed command of The Combat Training Centre at Gagetown, New Brunswick. In July 1997, not wishing to break from his status of "no fixed address", he moved to Halifax, Nova Scotia and assumed command of Land Force Atlantic Area with responsibility for the regular and reserve Army troops in the four Atlantic provinces.

Brigadier-General Ross' interests are his family, keeping fit, and continuation of a Masters of Arts in War Studies. He and his wife Pam have two sons, Angus (currently studying at Guelph University) and Hamish (14 going on 21).

UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/874
21 September 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 21 SEPTEMBER 1998 FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 14 September 1998 (S/1998/873) regarding your intention to appoint Brigadier-General Cameron Ross of Canada to succeed Major-General David Stapleton of Ireland as Force Commander of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) has been brought to the attention of the members of the Council. They take note of the intention contained in the letter.

(Signed) Hans DAHLGREN
President of the Security Council

98-27671 (E) 210998

UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/875
22 September 1998
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 21 SEPTEMBER 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 16 September 1998 from Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, concerning the illegal mechanism and measures that are being employed by the United Nations Compensation Commission and its secretariat.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

98-27765 (E) 220998 220998

/...

Annex

[Original: Arabic]

Letter dated 16 September 1998 from the Deputy Prime Minister of Iraq addressed to the Secretary-General

The United Nations Compensation Commission has previously referred to the Government of Iraq a number of claims from corporations and individuals. The Government has studied these claims and prepared Iraq's responses to them on the basis of the information available to the Iraqi authorities concerned with such claims. These responses having been considered by the panels of Commissioners appointed for that purpose, the Governing Council of the United Nations Compensation Commission made its decisions on the basis of the recommendations of the Panel of Commissioners responsible for corporate compensation. In the table below, we set forth claims, the amount claimed, the compensation awarded by the Governing Council and the percentage of the claim represented by the award.

Claimant	Amount claimed (US$ million)	Amount awarded (US$ million)	Difference between two amounts	Percentage of claim awarded
Egyptian workers	491	84.4	406.6	17.1
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kuwait	40.4	5.6	34.9	14
Kuwait University	29.2	15.2	14	52.2
Jasim Yusif Al-Hamidi	30	20.9	9.1	67
Continental Corp. (India)	472.8	16	456.8	3.4
Cable Corp. (Kuwait)	126.6	55.1	71.5	43.8
Hyundai (Republic of Korea)	238.4	34.3	204.1	14.3
Tekhnoprom Export (Russia)	326.3	81.9	244.4	25

It is clear to us from the above table that the compensation awarded is excessive and that corporations are employing extortionate methods with a view to obtaining the highest level of compensation possible. It is also clear that Iraqi Government participation in responding to these claims, using the information available to the Iraqi authorities concerned, has been of the greatest assistance in uncovering exaggerated and extortionate claims. If we consider that the policy of the United Nations Compensation Commission is to

refer only a small selection, representing less than 1 per cent, of all claims to the Government of Iraq for a response, the extent to which that Government is being wronged and the people of Iraq bilked of its property becomes clear. If we take the claims cited above as a representative sample, it is clear that the measures adopted by the United Nations Compensation Commission are illegal and unjust. It has deliberately decided not to submit to Iraq claims for compensation under US$ 100,000, in particular those from corporations and individuals, and does not even allow Iraq to see the names of the individuals or corporations claiming compensation. Iraq is not furnished with even the smallest amount of information on the type of claim. The policy pursued by the United Nations Compensation Commission encourages claimants to employ every means of exaggerating the value of their claim and increases their attempts to extort money from Iraq. This violates all the legal norms which oblige the claimant to allow the defendant to scrutinize every detail of the claim. The United Nations Compensation Commission is itself obliged to observe the basic legal principles which stipulate that equal opportunities shall be provided for both parties to a dispute. It is, furthermore, bound to observe the legal norms laid down in the constitutions of all sovereign States stipulating respect for the right to defence, and to offer Iraq the opportunity to exercise that legitimate right and to give its opinion and observations and provide information on every claim for compensation, since it is, in the end, Iraq that will settle these awards from its own funds.

The Government of Iraq, in submitting this information to you, wishes only to establish the facts. The mechanism and measures used by the United Nations Compensation Commission and its secretariat are characterized by a lack of legality. Iraq reserves the right to take the necessary legal measures to defend its rights and regain the property of its people, in accordance with the principles and norms of international law.

(Signed) Tariq AZIZ
Deputy Prime Minister and
Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs
Baghdad, 16 September 1998

UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/876
22 September 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 18 SEPTEMBER 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF AUSTRIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to enclose a letter dated 18 September 1998 from the Vice-Chancellor and Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs of Austria, Mr. Wolfgang Schüssel, addressed to you.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ernst SUCHARIPA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Austria
to the United Nations

98-27784 (E) 220998

/...

Annex

Letter dated 18 September 1998 from the Vice-Chancellor and Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs of Austria addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the pleasure to write to you in my capacity as President of the Council of Ministers of the European Union (EU).

On the occasion of the meeting of the Security Council at the ministerial level on 24 September 1998, the European Union would like to reiterate its deep appreciation to the Secretary-General of the United Nations for submitting his report dated 13 April 1998 on "The causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa" (A/52/871-S/1998/318). The European Union highly values the holistic approach taken in the report, with the central focus on human security and human development. While looking forward to an in-depth discussion of the various aspects raised in the report in the respective United Nations forums, the European Union would like to make the following observations on areas which fall within the purview of the Security Council.

The European Union is fully committed to a proactive policy on conflict prevention and resolution, focusing on preventing the outbreak of violent conflicts at an early stage as well as on post-conflict peace-building and using the full range of policy instruments available. These goals are set out in the European Union's common position on conflict prevention and resolution in Africa and are complemented by the European Union's common position on human rights, good governance, democracy and the rule of law in Africa. Good governance, including the respect for human rights and the rule of law, are crucial elements for an environment in which durable peace, based on human security and human development, is sustained and economic growth promoted.

Early warning must be complemented by early action, such as well-focused diplomatic efforts at early stages in unfolding crises as well as humanitarian assistance and development aid as integral components of early action. The European Union is the largest donor of international humanitarian aid and the world's leading source of development assistance to Africa. We fully endorse the call of the Secretary-General for greater coordination in the provision of humanitarian assistance, which has to be fully consistent with broader United Nations peace and development activities. The European Union reiterates its strong concern for the safety and security of United Nations and related personnel as well as other international personnel, which have to be fully ensured.

The European Union welcomes the statement of the President of the Security Council of 16 September 1998 (S/PRST/1998/28), in which the Security Council, having the primary responsibility under the Charter of the United Nations for international peace and security, affirmed, inter alia, the need to strengthen Africa's capacity to actively participate in all aspects of peacekeeping operations, including their military, police, humanitarian and other civilian components. We encourage bilateral and multilateral cooperation in the field of

The primary responsibility for the future of Africa rests with the A
people and their leaders. The European Union is committed to assisting t
continent on its path to a peaceful and prosperous future.

(Signed) Wolfgang SCHÜSSEL
Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs of
President of the Council of Minist
of the European Union

UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/877
22 September 1998
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 21 SEPTEMBER 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Acting on instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of a letter dated 16 September 1998 from Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, concerning the extension by the United Nations Compensation Commission of the competence conferred on it under paragraph 16 of Security Council resolution 687 (1991) and the harm that this is causing to Iraq.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

98-27802 (E) 220998 220998

/...

Annex

[Original: Arabic

Letter dated 17 September 1998 from the Deputy Prime Minister of Iraq addressed to the Secretary-General

The Government of Iraq has learned that the Governing Council of the United Nations Compensation Commission at Geneva was on the point of considering the report submitted to it with a view to determining whether Iraq should pay compensation in respect of its debts and obligations arising prior to 2 August 1990, and that the report was in the form of a lengthy legal study.

We should like to refer to paragraph 16 of Security Council resolution 687 (1991) whereby the Council 'Reaffirms that Iraq, without prejudice to its debts and obligations arising prior to 2 August 1990, which will be addressed through the normal mechanisms, is liable under international law for any direct loss, damage - including environmental damage and the depletion of natural resources - or injury to foreign Governments, nationals and corporations as a result of its unlawful invasion and occupation of Kuwait.'

In the aforesaid resolution, the Security Council clearly expressed its will and decided that Iraq's debts and obligations arising prior to 2 August 1990 did not come under the issue of compensation and should be addressed through the normal mechanisms. The Iraqi Government therefore protests the raising of this issue by the United Nations Compensation Commission and considers this position to be contrary to Security Council resolution 687 (1991).

Since it was established, the United Nations Compensation Commission has sought zealously to extend the scope of its activities. There is much evidence attesting thereto. For example:

1. Attempts have been made to expand the meaning given to direct injury referred to in the aforesaid paragraph 16 of Security Council resolution 687 (1991) which stipulates that 'Iraq ... is liable under international law for any direct loss' and 'damage ... as a result of its' entry into Kuwait. This clearly means that the Security Council wishes to hold Iraq liable, under international law, for damage stemming from its actions, whereas the United Nations Compensation Commission has attributed to our country a new liability - of which no trace can be found in the Security Council resolutions - by issuing its decision No. 7 dated 17 March 1992 whereby it holds Iraq liable for damage resulting from actions committed by the Coalition forces. This extension of the Commission's competence and the extension of Iraq's liabilities have caused considerable injury to the finances of the Iraqi people.

2. Iraq's liability was clearly established by resolutions 687 and 692; it is confined to compensation for direct loss or damage. The Governing Council of the United Nations Compensation Commission has decided (decision No. 16) to add interest to the amount of the compensation even though no Security Council resolution requires Iraq to pay interest or makes any mention thereof in any

form whatsoever. Adding interest to the amount of compensation is a new requirement introduced by the United Nations Compensation Commission; there is no justification for it either in the relevant resolutions of the Security Council or in the report of the Executive Secretary (S/22559), dated 2 May 1991, which defines the responsibilities and duties of the United Nations Compensation Commission. If we consider, on the one hand, the amount of the compensation which will probably be set within the context of the policy pursued by the Commission and, on the other, the period over which the cumulative interest is due, we can imagine the injury which Iraq will have to sustain from paying such interest.

3. The United Nations Compensation Commission, through the intermediary of its former Executive Secretary, signed a protocol with the Egyptian Government whereby it is authorized to receive claims for amounts due to Egyptian workers for the years 1987, 1988, 1989 and 1990 following operations carried out by those workers with Iraqi banks even though such claims have nothing to do with the entry of Iraq into Kuwait or with the relevant resolutions of the Security Council. Not content with accepting these claims, the Governing Council of the United Nations Compensation Commission decided to accept a part of the Egyptian workers' claims which it considers as falling within the framework of the Commission's responsibilities by spreading Iraq's liability over time and considering that transfers effected since 2 July 1990 fall within the competence of the Commission; in other words the Governing Council does not even abide by the date of 2 August 1990, the date for the start of the implementation of the coercive measures against Iraq.

We can cite other examples in this connection and the Iraqi Government reserves the right to throw light on this issue at a later date in order to illustrate the extent of the wrong, injury and injustice being done to the Iraqi people, whose assets are being pillaged under cover of compensation.

Finally, the United Nations Compensation Commission is considering the possibility of including all or part of the Iraqi debt in its field of competence and it is doing so for obvious political reasons since this issue is clearly defined by the relevant Security Council resolutions. Accordingly, the Iraqi Government feels it is timely to ask you to intervene to ensure that the United Nations Compensation Commission abides by the relevant Security Council resolutions and does not broaden the interpretation thereof by imposing on Iraq new obligations which are not contained in those resolutions.

(Signed) Tariq AZIZ
Deputy Prime Minister
Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs

16 September 1998

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/877*
24 September 1998
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 21 SEPTEMBER 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Acting on instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of a letter dated 16 September 1998 from Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, concerning the extension by the United Nations Compensation Commission of the competence conferred on it under paragraph 16 of Security Council resolution 687 (1991) and the harm that this is causing to Iraq.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* Reissued for technical reasons.

Annex

[Original: Arabic]

Letter dated 17 September 1998 from the Deputy Prime Minister of Iraq addressed to the Secretary-General

The Government of Iraq has learned that the Governing Council of the United Nations Compensation Commission at Geneva was on the point of considering the report submitted to it with a view to determining whether Iraq should pay compensation in respect of its debts and obligations arising prior to 2 August 1990, and that the report was in the form of a lengthy legal study.

We should like to refer to paragraph 16 of Security Council resolution 687 (1991) whereby the Council "Reaffirms that Iraq, without prejudice to its debts and obligations arising prior to 2 August 1990, which will be addressed through the normal mechanisms, is liable under international law for any direct loss, damage - including environmental damage and the depletion of natural resources - or injury to foreign Governments, nationals and corporations as a result of its unlawful invasion and occupation of Kuwait."

In the aforesaid resolution, the Security Council clearly expressed its will and decided that Iraq's debts and obligations arising prior to 2 August 1990 did not come under the issue of compensation and should be addressed through the normal mechanisms. The Iraqi Government therefore protests the raising of this issue by the United Nations Compensation Commission and considers this position to be contrary to Security Council resolution 687 (1991).

Since it was established, the United Nations Compensation Commission has sought zealously to extend the scope of its activities. There is much evidence attesting thereto. For example:

1. Attempts have been made to expand the meaning given to direct injury referred to in the aforesaid paragraph 16 of Security Council resolution 687 (1991) which stipulates that "Iraq ... is liable under international law for any direct loss" and "damage ... as a result of its" entry into Kuwait. This clearly means that the Security Council wishes to hold Iraq liable, under international law, for damage stemming from its actions, whereas the United Nations Compensation Commission has attributed to our country a new liability - of which no trace can be found in the Security Council resolutions - by issuing its decision No. 7 dated 17 March 1992 whereby it holds Iraq liable for damage resulting from actions committed by the Coalition forces. This extension of the Commission's competence and the extension of Iraq's liabilities have caused considerable injury to the finances of the Iraqi people.

2. Iraq's liability was clearly established by resolutions 687 and 692; it is confined to compensation for direct loss or damage. The Governing Council of the United Nations Compensation Commission has decided (decision No. 16) to add interest to the amount of the compensation even though no Security Council resolution requires Iraq to pay interest or makes any mention thereof in any

form whatsoever. Adding interest to the amount of compensation is a new requirement introduced by the United Nations Compensation Commission; there is no justification for it either in the relevant resolutions of the Security Council or in the report of the Executive Secretary (S/22559), dated 2 May 1991, which defines the responsibilities and duties of the United Nations Compensation Commission. If we consider, on the one hand, the amount of the compensation which will probably be set within the context of the policy pursued by the Commission and, on the other, the period over which the cumulative interest is due, we can imagine the injury which Iraq will have to sustain from paying such interest.

3. The United Nations Compensation Commission, through the intermediary of its former Executive Secretary, signed a protocol with the Egyptian Government whereby it is authorized to receive claims for amounts due to Egyptian workers for the years 1987, 1988, 1989 and 1990 following operations carried out by those workers with Iraqi banks even though such claims have nothing to do with the entry of Iraq into Kuwait or with the relevant resolutions of the Security Council. Not content with accepting these claims, the Governing Council of the United Nations Compensation Commission decided to accept a part of the Egyptian workers' claims which it considers as falling within the framework of the Commission's responsibilities by spreading Iraq's liability over time and considering that transfers effected since 2 July 1990 fall within the competence of the Commission; in other words the Governing Council does not even abide by the date of 2 August 1990, the date for the start of the implementation of the coercive measures against Iraq.

We can cite other examples in this connection and the Iraqi Government reserves the right to throw light on this issue at a later date in order to illustrate the extent of the wrong, injury and injustice being done to the Iraqi people, whose assets are being pillaged under cover of compensation.

Finally, the United Nations Compensation Commission is considering the possibility of including all or part of the Iraqi debt in its field of competence and it is doing so for obvious political reasons since this issue is clearly defined by the relevant Security Council resolutions. Accordingly, the Iraqi Government feels it is timely to ask you to intervene to ensure that the United Nations Compensation Commission abides by the relevant Security Council resolutions and does not broaden the interpretation thereof by imposing on Iraq new obligations which are not contained in those resolutions.

(Signed) Tariq AZIZ
Deputy Prime Minister
Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs

16 September 1998

UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/878
24 September 1998
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 24 SEPTEMBER 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you as follows:

1. On 23 August 1998 two armed naval vessels flying the flag of the United States and each carrying 20 armed United States troops with full military equipment and single- and double-barrelled machine-guns together with a salvage vessel searched Iraqi launches in the Khawr Abd Allah area (from the Alam al-Mashhuni area in a westerly direction towards the buoys) claiming that they were searching for concealed Iraqi weapons and equipment.

2. At 0900 hours on 7 September 1998 the Iraqi vessel Al-Abid left the Umm Qasr silo heading for the Basrah silo with a cargo of 1,494 tons of grain under the 'oil-for-food' programme. At 2340 hours, while in Iraqi territorial waters, it was intercepted by United States forces. At 0230 hours on 8 September the vessel and its crew were forcibly taken on a bearing of 170 degrees south towards an unknown destination with the crew still on board. The members of the crew are:

1. Shihab Hamzah Abbas, master
2. Abd al-Rasul Hajji Umran, third officer
3. Shihab Ahmad Taha, third officer
4. Abd al-Waddud Khalil Fathi, petty officer
5. Zahir Habib Abbas, electrician
6. Fadil Kazim Badiwi, first seaman
7. Samir Majid Nasir, first seaman
8. Yasir Tahir Yusr, oiler
9. Kazim Abd al-Husayn, oiler

10. Adnan Abd al-Karim Abbas, laboratory examiner

11. Muhammad Abd al-Sadah Hasan, laboratory examiner

12. Mahdi Salih Salman, auditor

13. Hasan Zahraw Hasan, auditor

At 0945 hours on 8 September all the ships papers of the vessel Al-Abid were returned to its master and it was released without incident.

I request your intervention with the United States of America with a view to bringing a halt to violations and provocative and unjustifiable behaviour that have become more frequent in recent times, given that they constitute actions that are in violation of the Charter of the United Nations and the provisions of international law and pose a threat to the sovereignty and security of a State member of the United Nations.

In accordance with the principle of State responsibility, I affirm the legally established right of the Republic of Iraq to seek legal compensation for the damage caused to it and to its nationals by such actions.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/879
22 September 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 21 SEPTEMBER 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SUDAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to submit to you herewith the text of paragraphs 8 and 179 from the final document issued by the summit meeting of Heads of State and Government of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries held at Durban, South Africa, on 3 September 1998, concerning the American aggression on the El-Shifa pharmaceutical plant in Khartoum (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Elfatih ERWA
Permanent Representative

98-27790 (E) 220998

/...

Annex

Extract from the final document of the summit meeting of Heads of State and Government of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries held at Durban, South Africa, on 3 September 1998

8. The Heads of State and Government reaffirmed the principles of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and the sanctity of the Charter of the United Nations and reiterated their firm condemnation of all unilateral military actions or threats of military action against the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of the members of the Movement which constitute acts of aggression and blatant violations of the principle of non-intervention and non-interference. In this context they strongly condemned the policies and practices of those who had targeted some States members of the Movement for unilateral military actions.

179. The Heads of State and Government, recalling the ten Bandung principles, which constitute the foundations of the Movement, expressed their deep concern over the air attack carried out by the Government of the United States of America against the El-Shifa pharmaceutical plant in the Sudan on 20 August 1998, and considered this as a serious violation of the principles of international law and the Charter of the United Nations and contrary to the principles of peaceful settlement of disputes as well as a serious threat to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Sudan and regional stability and international peace and security. They further considered the attack as a unilateral and unwarranted act. The Heads of State and Government condemned the act of aggression and the continuing threats made by the United States Government against the Sudan and urged the United States Government to refrain from such unilateral acts. They further expressed support to the Sudan in its legitimate demands for full compensation for economic and material losses resulting from the attack.

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/880
22 September 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 21 SEPTEMBER 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SUDAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the interview by the World Socialist Web Site with Mr. Tom Carnaffin, the British Technical Manager at the Al-Shifa pharmaceutical factory in the Sudan, which had been destroyed by the United States of America under the pretext that the factory was making chemical weapons or their precursors (see annex).

The British engineer confirmed again that Al-Shifa factory was not making chemical weapons or their so-called precursors. He confirmed that it produced basic medicines for human consumption and for veterinary use.

The British engineer refuted United States allegations that the factory was a highly guarded establishment. He said that within the factory there were no security doors, there weren't any "no-go" areas. It was just a small factory and what the Americans said - that it was a rambling factory - is rubbish.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Elfatih ERWA
Permanent Representative

Annex

Interview with Tom Carnaffin, technical manager at the bombed Al-Shifa

[Latest News From Sudan At Sudan Net]

News Article by WSWS on September 19, 1998 at 17:50:20:



Tom Carnaffin

Interview with Tom Carnaffin, technical manager at the bombed Al-Shifa Pharmaceutical Factory in Sudan

By Barbara Slaughter
World Socialist Web Site
12 September 1998

"The Al-Shifa factory was not making chemical weapons or their so-called 'precursors'"

The US missile attack that destroyed the Al-Shifa Pharmaceutical Factory in Khartoum was a brutal act of war. The claims by Clinton and the US administration that the factory was making a chemical component of nerve gas have largely been discredited.

The factory was Sudan's largest commercial manufacturer of prescription drugs for both medical and veterinary purposes, producing 50 percent of the country's supply. The consequences of its destruction, on the lives and health of the Sudanese people, will be immense. One man who has an intimate knowledge of the factory and of the Baaboud family who built it is Tom Carnaffin. A 57-year-old engineer who has worked all over the world building and commissioning industrial plants, Carnaffin has worked as technical manager for the Baaboud family since 1991.

In an exclusive interview with Barbara Slaughter, Carnaffin nails the lies of the Clinton government and provides a stark insight into the impact the factory's destruction will have on the lives of the Sudanese people.

Q: Can you explain about the owners of the factory and how you came to work for them?

I work for the Baaboud family. They came from Yemen to the Sudan, long before the British withdrew in 1956 and set up trading. Only one member of the family went to Saudi Arabia a long time ago and got Saudi nationality. The majority of the family stayed in the Sudan and still have Sudanese nationality.

They run ships, plying the Red Sea. They have a salt farm and have just started installing a refining plant. One of the big problems on that coast, in the Sudan, Eritrea and Ethiopia, is goitre. So they have to process the salt by adding iodine, which eliminates the condition. We are also in the middle of a project for processing sesame seed. It's a big family, with seven brothers who do everything together. There's nothing like one faction of the family running off and doing something else, like making bombs.

They built the Al-Shifa medicine factory in conjunction with a man called Bashir Hassan Bashir, who is loosely connected with the family through marriage. They came up with this project for the medicine factory in about 1992-93. The Baaboud family put millions of dollars into it. They not only manufactured medicine, but examined what was necessary in the field and sending dispensers out to make sure that little Abdulla actually took one tablet a day over six days instead of six tablets on the first day and nothing afterwards. It was a fairly comprehensive operation.

I originally went out to Saudi Arabia, in January 1991, and became the technical manager for the Baabouds. I was involved in many different aspects from work on the ships, to the salt farm, to the cleaning plant, to the medicine factory and was pretty au-fait with all they were doing. They are a very good family and are highly noted for this in both the Sudan and Saudi Arabia. They do a lot of work for underprivileged people--for instance they provide homes for students going to college in Khartoum and Port Sudan. You couldn't say they were fundamentalists.

Q: What were your responsibilities at the factory?

My role was to make a technical appraisal of what was happening. Whenever any problems occurred regarding fire systems, furniture, computers or dust coming in under the doors, and all kinds of other things, they would say, "Send for Tom--get him to come and sort this out." So I was very familiar with what was going on in the factory--where they made the tea, where they went to the toilet, who the guard was on the gate.

It was a very prestigious place. Hundreds of people used to visit, including the British ambassador. Any visitors to the country were taken to the medicine factory. They were very proud of it. There was nothing untoward that they didn't want them to see.

After the bombing the press said this was a highly guarded establishment. The level of guard was the same as at any Sudanese establishment, whether it was a water pumping station or a soap factory. Yes, there would be a man on the gate with an automatic rifle, but you've got to remember that people from the south have assassinated members of the government. There are insurgents coming over from Ethiopia on a regular basis. They highjack lorries on the main Khartoum to Port Sudan road. So they have to take care.

Within the factory there were no security doors, there weren't any "no-go" areas. It was just a small factory. This thing that the Americans say that it was a rambling factory is rubbish. The whole place was only about 60 metres square. There were just over 200 people working there. All the machinery came from Europe and America.

The Al-Shifa factory was not making chemical weapons or their so-called "precursors". It produced basic medicines for human consumption and for veterinary use. Probably the most important was an anti-diarrhoea remedy. They also made drugs against TB and they bought in the basic stock for antibiotics. Someone like Glaxo produces basic antibiotics in tons. It is then cut and blended and put into medicines and capsules. That's what they were doing. There was no prime chemical manufacture. They didn't have reactors or anything like that. It was a mixing and blending facility, like a big chemist's shop

Q: Did you know Henry Jobe, the American expert who designed the factory?

I never met him. I knew of him and I think I saw him a couple of times. But didn't actually meet him in Bashir's office. His responsibility was just for the initial stages. After that the pharmacists took it over.

Q: Could you explain why the factory was sold and to whom?

It came to a point at the end of last year when the Baabouds decided they would like to liquidate their share in the factory, which was quite extensive. All the options were looked at. Would Bashir buy it outright or would they sell it? There was a promotional video made. This is what shoots down the American claims completely. Firstly the Baabouds asked the government if they would take it over. Then they put that factory on the open market. It was a number of months before Adris came up as a buyer.

If somebody was doing something subversive in an establishment, how could they put it on the open market and have prospective buyers, from

god knows where, coming and having a look at it?

Q: The US government has claimed they have soil specimens one mile from the factory containing material that proves it was producing nerve gas. What do you think of this?

The whole thing is a lie. How could they get an effluent outfall, one mile from a factory that doesn't have an effluent discharge of any kind, by fume emission or water emission or anything like that? The only emission from the factory is from the toilets. How can you get a radical chemical from that?

It's now been revealed US forces flew a reconnaissance mission to test for traces of gas and reported that there were none. Clinton still authorised the attack. He was also told that the absence of gas would avoid chemical fallout and the horrifying spectacle of civilian casualties. That's rubbish. The fallout is the fact that the kids in Al Foa and Hawata are dying because they can't get medicine. The morality of the thing is even worse than any fallout from toxic effluent. You are talking about thousands of people dying from dysentery and other diseases. The medicines just won't be available.

Q: Could you tell me something about the Sudan? What are its main natural resources?

The Sudan is a vast country with vast resources. The principal ones they are using at the moment are all renewable--cotton, corn, peanuts, sugar. You have to remember that Nimeiri raped the country and its resources. This was a man that the British and the Americans said was a god in his own country. He took over all kinds of factories, cotton mills, oil plants, and so forth, but he couldn't run them and they closed down. There's a soap factory that's standing empty in Port Sudan that's been closed down since the early 1970s. Nimeiri went power mad. He would take a plane and fly to Paris for an evening meal. He was removed by a countercoup.

There are also vast mineral resources. They have a gold mine run by the French. In certain parts of the Red Sea plain you can pick gold up off the ground. They have chrome, copper and obviously they have got the Nile, which is a massive natural resource. The British way back in the 1920s carried out the Geezara irrigation scheme between the White and the Blue Nile, which is a vast grass growing area. We have a massive excavator down there. It can dig to 40 feet in one go. In areas where we were trying it out there was 40 feet of black topsoil.

Q: What role does Britain play today in the country's economic and political life?

During Kitchener's time there were a lot of people killed, but there have been just as bloody times both before and after. Britain has all kinds of historical connections with the Sudan. We did the Geezara irrigation

scheme; we built dams and all sorts. The Sudanese up to now nad high regard for Britain. In the Second World War, up to the Battle of El Alamein, all the armaments went through the Sudan from the south. The Sudanese were some of the best fighters the British had in North Africa. There were colonials that lived, worked and died in the country, who have memorials built by the Sudanese out of respect.

Tony Blair has in one sentence, without any thought, destroyed a century of high regard. It's shot, because of this unquestioned support by Tony Blair for a guy that was caught with his trousers down and has been shown to be lying. He is also lying about the medicine factory. There's this guy sitting in the White House, who has never been to the Sudan. He goes to all these glory holes like Northern Ireland and so forth, not for the benefit of the world, but because it's good for him politically.

There is considerable trade between Britain and Germany and the Sudan. And potentially the Sudan is a huge market. The amount of British equipment out there is vast. Nearly all the extraction equipment for vegetable oil has been built in Britain and most of the dragline excavators. Now the cheap prices from the Toyotas and so forth are pushing the British out, but they still preferred Lister's and Perkin's diesel engines. During the past week I've been travelling round Britain with two of the brothers buying generators and so forth.

That's what annoys me so much about Blair. He's the one that put his hand on Clinton's shoulder and said, "This man could never do anything wrong. He is a good man." He was made to look a fool then and he is being made to look a fool now.

Q: What is the attitude of the Baabouds to the Islamic government in Khartoum?

They are supporters of the government. They definitely were not supporters of Nimeiri, because he raped the country. Hassan al-Tourabi is effectively the political mouthpiece of the Muslim League in the Sudan, but the country shouldn't be judged by him.

Nobody has been to the country and seen what the hell is going on. It is going through a bad time. When you think that in 1956 the Sudanese pound was valued higher than the British pound and now the exchange rate is thousands of their pounds to ours. But the economy is beginning to grow. They have got the South Koreans in, who have opened up some of these factories that Nimeiri closed. They have opened up a cotton spinning factory that had been standing empty for years. It's processing the cotton now, which gives the whole thing added value.

Q: Can you say something about the conditions in the Sudan?

It's difficult. There's no money. The country is slowly trying to get itself

together, to earn foreign currency. Nobody will loan them money. There are companies like one from Kuwait that will give loans to Sudanese projects, but it's against next year's crop.

At present they are busy doing the road from Port Sudan to Khartoum, financed by the African Bank. They couldn't make the payments to the bank, so the Italian contractors went away and there is a bloody great gap in the road. The bank and the contractors had no sympathy at all. They just packed their gear and went home.

They have huge health problems. Before I left Baaboud's I was in the Sudan for seven months, through the rainy season. Where there is water the malaria is unbelievable. If you walked out of the house across the road, about 10 or 15 metres, and back again, by the time you got back you'd be covered head to toe in mosquitoes. I nearly died from malaria whilst I was there.

In the village we were in, you went to have the test for malaria in a tin hut. There were so many insects in there; it was like being in a beehive. The hospital didn't have electricity because the power was switched off and part of it was flooded. The doctor was trained in Russia during the Nimeiri regime. He told me that in Russia they had been trained how to operate in a third world country. He said, "That's all very well, but this is a fourth world country." That's what it is now because of the need for medicines and provisions. This is what the people in the Sudan are fighting against.

Another problem is Bilhuxia, which is caused by a parasite from a snail that lives in the canals. The parasite gets into the human body and destroys the liver. The children get it because they bathe in the canals. It's not easily cured.

The government don't admit to the outside world exactly what is going on. It's just the same in places like Saudi Arabia. They had a fire in Mecca at the time of the Hadj two years ago. They said 200 were killed. I know for a fact there were 2,000. That's Saudi Arabia, an ally of the Americans, with the third world's worst record on human rights. There are things that happen in the Sudan that they don't spread around the world. There were two villages while we were there that were surrounded by the army because they had dysentery and they didn't want it to spread.

When I was very ill there in 1992-93 there were no drugs. They were getting out-of-date drugs in from Egypt. Then they started a free market in drugs, so if you had the money you could buy them. But the majority of the population can't afford to buy those drugs, so they were totally dependent the Al-Shifa factory.

Now what will happen to the children who get diarrhoea, or malaria? They will just die--thousands of children will die. I don't know how many. The World Health Organisation will tell you that. I've seen them die myself.

There are no serums or anything like that. There are no facilities to keep serums for snake bites and scorpion bites. So people die.

Q: The US press has claimed a link between the factory and Osama bin Laden. Did you ever hear his name? Was he ever at the factory?

Everybody talks about Osmar bin Laden. It's just a natural thing, like in Britain people might talk about the IRA or Ian Paisley. Yes, he does have a house in the Sudan. But there has never been any connection between the Baabouds and him. In trading terms the Baabouds would never take on a partner or a joint venture. They've done this thing with Hassan Bashir, but that is because effectively he is in the family.

I've put lots of projects to the Baabouds, anything from fast ferries to whatever. The thing that I originally went to Saudi Arabia for was to do a joint venture with a British company. They don't like that sort of thing, because it gives other people access to their situation. They don't like partners and joint ventures. So for Osmar bin Laden to be involved in the factory is just crazy.

I've certainly never seen bin Laden. Salim Baaboud said he had told the police that the first time he had seen the man was when he saw his picture in the paper after the bombing.

I'm not a Saudi promoter, because I know what it's like, having lived and worked there. But the Saudis must be cringing, at this constant referral, even by the Americans, that bin Laden is a Saudi. The family are Saudis, but he has been ostracised by them. He's been exiled by the Saudi government and to even mention his name in Saudi Arabia is against the law. He has no country. He's stateless.

Q: Were there Iraqi customers? Would they visit for commercial reasons? The US media has carried accounts of Saddam Hussein's alleged biological warfare chief visiting the factory.

People from Iraq may well have visited the factory. Iraqi dignitaries certainly visited, but so did the British ambassador. I mean, you take people to prestigious places. Who these people were is not an issue. Because Clinton goes to the Kremlin is he a Russian?

I don't think they did export to Iraq, but I know that enquiries had been made. The factory was looking for customers like any other business. They were looking for hard currency. It was open to anyone. Iranians came to visit.

I have a friend who sold the last very large power station to the Iraqis, which isn't so long ago. And he was given an OBE for it. Then when the war broke out, he went to work one morning and there was no place for his car in the car park and no office for him. It was a different ball game.

So don't talk to me about the fact that we don't speak to the Iraqis. We've all been there. We've all done business there. That's bullshit. The Iraqis have every right to buy medicine, even under the United Nations conditions. They are not necessarily going to buy from the Americans are they?

The American government may have claimed they did not know of any commercial production at the factory, but after the bombing you could see quite clearly on the television what they produced. You could see the bottles of medicine lying about. The press has all the evidence on that. Everybody and their dog was walking round the factory and looking at what was there. The minister wouldn't stand there and watch the fire burn after the bombing if there was something hazardous there, would he? He would know exactly what it was and he'd be miles away.

The Baabouds and Bashir didn't have anything against the Americans. They bought American machinery. We even had American school buses to carry the workers in every day. But anybody in the gulf can see the inequality of approach by the Americans to different countries. You know the Israelis have a chemical warfare plant, but do they question them about it?

Q: Has the US media contacted you?

From day one I knew the American government was wrong. People I have had discussions with on American radio programmes and television programmes know that they are wrong as well. The experts in America know they are wrong. On the Sunday after it happened the CBS had me on, ABS, Pacific National Radio, New York. I had the New York Times, the Washington Post, the Los Angeles Times. They all spoke to me and had me on programmes. The general consensus has been that the American were wrong--and that's from the television, radio and press. I've been on Pacific National Radio three times, two discussions and one interview. And they have been pushing it hard. CBS seem to be saying that the government got it wrong and actually they should do something about it. But CNN never spoke to me. The others told me not to expect them, because they were pro-national interest.

Q: Has any government agency from the US or Britain contacted you?

Yes, I've got a meeting with them tomorrow. A police inspector, Inspector Ian Cross, from the local force rang me and said he would like to come and visit me with someone from London. You can report that. I'm very open about this whole thing. I've got nothing to hide or anything like that.

I was on Sky News and the Defence Secretary George Robertson came on after me, and he immediately misquoted two specific things I had said. One was the time I'd been there and the second thing what I'd had actually

been doing.

Robin Cook, British Defence Secretary, said he was confident America would not have chosen these targets without clear evidence that they were the correct targets. He claimed he has seen direct intelligence evidence on the targets, but refused to say what that evidence was. That's an outright lie! That just cannot be so. He is giving them carte blanche and declaring to the world: "We are a satellite of America."

He said that innocent people can not have their lives put at risk by terrorists. So what was American's action other than a terrorist action? They killed 30 people in the bombing raid, but they have put many thousands of people's lives at risk. People are being condemned to death by this action of the American state.

And they continue with the lie. The Sudanese put out the red carpet for them to go and analyse the situation, after the bombing. And it was stopped. The only people who could stop it in the UN were the Americans. They turned it down flat. So now it's going to fester forever. It's very unfair for the Sudanese. Christ, the Americans risked life and limb to go and do investigations in Iraq. The Sudanese said, "Come. We'll give you anything you want. Have a look. Analyse the situation."

There's one last thing I want to say. I don't work for the Sudanese government. I speak simply as an individual. But I will do everything in my power to bring pressure to bear to help force the American government to pay compensation for what they have done. They have more than a moral duty to the people who are suffering as a result of their actions.

The bombing will have more of a social impact than an economic one. It's the human consequences that should be borne in mind. Adris, the new owner, says he will rebuild the factory. I don't know how the insurance will cover this. It is an act of war, an act of aggression, so I don't know how the insurance company will look at it. But it's much more than simply a question of bricks and mortar.

I've lived and worked with the Sudanese in some very arduous conditions. They are people who have nothing and I mean nothing. Yet they are so hospitable. They have fed me and looked after me. And I have an obligation to those people, that is the people in rural Sudan. I know them. I've worked with them. To think these people have been treated like this makes me so angry. What Clinton did was a crime.

WSWS



UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/881
22 September 1998
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 21 SEPTEMBER 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 16 September 1998 from Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, concerning the right of Iraq to express its views on the claims submitted to the United Nations Compensation Commission, in order to prevent the fraud, extortion and exaggeration resorted to by those claiming compensation.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

98-27808 (E) 220998 220998

/...

Annex

[Original: Arabi

Letter dated 16 September 1998 from the Deputy Prime Minister of Iraq addressed to the Secretary-General

On 2 July 1998 the Governing Council of the United Nations Compensation Commission published Decision 52 concerning the sixth instalment of claims by individuals relating to compensation for damages under US$ 100,000 (category C claims). This decision settled 64,425 claims by individuals, awarding a total of US$ 739,730,850.90 to citizens of 72 countries and individuals from eight international agencies and organizations. Each country was provided with the details of the claims made by its citizens, whereas Iraq, the country that wil have to deprive its own people in order to settle these claims, knew nothing o the nature of the claims or anything about them. It was merely informed of th name of the country, the number of claims and the recommended award, and could make no observations thereon.

This procedure is part of the arbitrary policy pursued by the United Nations Compensation Commission of denying Iraq information about the claims a a means of preventing it from mounting any sort of defence of its rights. Claims are decided on the basis of the information provided by the claimant an the recommendation made by the panels of Commissioners, who have only a very short time in which to make judgements on hundreds of thousands of claims. Th resources of the Iraqi people have thus become the target of the fraud, extortion and exaggeration resorted to by those claiming compensation.

With regard to the above-mentioned decision, the Government of Iraq has reservations about an award made to any individual, corporation or country without Iraq having been given the details of the claim or offered the opportunity to defend its rights and its people's assets by putting its point view to the panels of Commissioners or the Governing Council of the United Nations Compensation Commission. We also reserve our right to dispute these claims if we are not given access to all the information needed for an objecti response.

In bringing this matter to your attention, the Government of Iraq request you to intervene personally in order to protect the resources of the Iraqi people from the extortionate and fraudulent practices for which the United Nations Compensation Commission is being used, and in order to offer Iraq the opportunity to consider the information relating to the claims for compensatio comment thereon and provide the Commission with information on the claims.

(Signed) Tariq AZIZ
Deputy Prime Minister and
Deputy Minister for Foreign Affai
Baghdad, 16 September 1998

UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/882
23 September 1998
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH AND FRENCH

France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Portugal, Slovenia, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America: draft resolution

The Security Council,

Recalling its resolution 1160 (1998) of 31 March 1998,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General pursuant to that resolution, and in particular his report of 4 September 1998 (S/1998/834 and Add.1),

Noting with appreciation the statement of the Foreign Ministers of France, Germany, Italy, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America (the Contact Group) of 12 June 1998 at the conclusion of the Contact Group's meeting with the Foreign Ministers of Canada and Japan (S/1998/567, annex), and the further statement of the Contact Group made in Bonn on 8 July 1998 (S/1998/657),

Noting also with appreciation the joint statement by the Presidents of the Russian Federation and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia of 16 June 1998 (S/1998/526),

Noting further the communication by the Prosecutor of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia to the Contact Group on 7 July 1998, expressing the view that the situation in Kosovo represents an armed conflict within the terms of the mandate of the Tribunal,

Gravely concerned at the recent intense fighting in Kosovo and in particular the excessive and indiscriminate use of force by Serbian security forces and the Yugoslav Army which have resulted in numerous civilian casualties and, according to the estimate of the Secretary-General, the displacement of over 230,000 persons from their homes,

Deeply concerned by the flow of refugees into northern Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and other European countries as a result of the use of force in Kosovo, as well as by the increasing numbers of displaced persons within Kosovo,

and other parts of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, up to 50,000 of whom the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has estimated are without shelter and other basic necessities,

Reaffirming the right of all refugees and displaced persons to return to their homes in safety, and underlining the responsibility of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia for creating the conditions which allow them to do so,

Condemning all acts of violence by any party, as well as terrorism in pursuit of political goals by any group or individual, and all external support for such activities in Kosovo, including the supply of arms and training for terrorist activities in Kosovo and expressing concern at the reports of continuing violations of the prohibitions imposed by resolution 1160 (1998),

Deeply concerned by the rapid deterioration in the humanitarian situation throughout Kosovo, alarmed at the impending humanitarian catastrophe as described in the report of the Secretary-General, and emphasizing the need to prevent this from happening,

Deeply concerned also by reports of increasing violations of human rights and of international humanitarian law, and emphasizing the need to ensure that the rights of all inhabitants of Kosovo are respected,

Reaffirming the objectives of resolution 1160 (1998), in which the Council expressed support for a peaceful resolution of the Kosovo problem which would include an enhanced status for Kosovo, a substantially greater degree of autonomy, and meaningful self-administration,

Reaffirming also the commitment of all Member States to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia,

Affirming that the deterioration of the situation in Kosovo, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, constitutes a threat to peace and security in the region,

Acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations,

1. Demands that all parties, groups and individuals immediately cease hostilities and maintain a ceasefire in Kosovo, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, which would enhance the prospects for a meaningful dialogue between the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Kosovo Albanian leadership and reduce the risks of a humanitarian catastrophe;

2. Demands also that the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Kosovo Albanian leadership take immediate steps to improve the humanitarian situation and to avert the impending humanitarian catastrophe;

3. Calls upon the authorities in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Kosovo Albanian leadership to enter immediately into a meaningful dialogue without preconditions and with international involvement, and to a clear timetable, leading to an end of the crisis and to a negotiated political

solution to the issue of Kosovo, and welcomes the current efforts aimed at facilitating such a dialogue;

4. Demands further that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, in addition to the measures called for under resolution 1160 (1998), implement immediately the following concrete measures towards achieving a political solution to the situation in Kosovo as contained in the Contact Group statement of 12 June 1998:

(a) cease all action by the security forces affecting the civilian population and order the withdrawal of security units used for civilian repression;

(b) enable effective and continuous international monitoring in Kosovo by the European Community Monitoring Mission and diplomatic missions accredited to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, including access and complete freedom of movement of such monitors to, from and within Kosovo unimpeded by government authorities, and expeditious issuance of appropriate travel documents to international personnel contributing to the monitoring;

(c) facilitate, in agreement with the UNHCR and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the safe return of refugees and displaced persons to their homes and allow free and unimpeded access for humanitarian organizations and supplies to Kosovo;

(d) make rapid progress to a clear timetable, in the dialogue referred to in paragraph 3 with the Kosovo Albanian community called for in resolution 1160 (1998), with the aim of agreeing confidence-building measures and finding a political solution to the problems of Kosovo;

5. Notes, in this connection, the commitments of the President of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, in his joint statement with the President of the Russian Federation of 16 June 1998:

(a) to resolve existing problems by political means on the basis of equality for all citizens and ethnic communities in Kosovo;

(b) not to carry out any repressive actions against the peaceful population;

(c) to provide full freedom of movement for and ensure that there will be no restrictions on representatives of foreign States and international institutions accredited to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia monitoring the situation in Kosovo;

(d) to ensure full and unimpeded access for humanitarian organizations, the ICRC and the UNHCR, and delivery of humanitarian supplies;

(e) to facilitate the unimpeded return of refugees and displaced persons under programmes agreed with the UNHCR and the ICRC, providing State aid for the reconstruction of destroyed homes,

and calls for the full implementation of these commitments;

6. Insists that the Kosovo Albanian leadership condemn all terrorist action, and emphasizes that all elements in the Kosovo Albanian community should pursue their goals by peaceful means only;

7. Recalls the obligations of all States to implement fully the prohibitions imposed by resolution 1160 (1998);

8. Endorses the steps taken to establish effective international monitoring of the situation in Kosovo, and in this connection welcomes the establishment of the Kosovo Diplomatic Observer Mission;

9. Urges States and international organizations represented in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to make available personnel to fulfil the responsibility of carrying out effective and continuous international monitoring in Kosovo until the objectives of this resolution and those of resolution 1160 (1998) are achieved;

10. Reminds the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia that it has the primary responsibility for the security of all diplomatic personnel accredited to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia as well as the safety and security of all international and non-governmental humanitarian personnel in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and calls upon the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and all others concerned in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to take all appropriate steps to ensure that monitoring personnel performing functions under this resolution are not subject to the threat or use of force or interference of any kind;

11. Requests States to pursue all means consistent with their domestic legislation and relevant international law to prevent funds collected on their territory being used to contravene resolution 1160 (1998);

12. Calls upon Member States and others concerned to provide adequate resources for humanitarian assistance in the region and to respond promptly and generously to the United Nations Consolidated Inter-Agency Appeal for Humanitarian Assistance Related to the Kosovo Crisis;

13. Calls upon the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, the leaders of the Kosovo Albanian community and all others concerned to cooperate fully with the Prosecutor of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia in the investigation of possible violations within the jurisdiction of the Tribunal;

14. Underlines also the need for the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to bring to justice those members of the security forces who have been involved in the mistreatment of civilians and the deliberate destruction of property;

15. Requests the Secretary-General to provide regular reports to the Council as necessary on his assessment of compliance with this resolution by the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and all elements in the Kosovo Albanian community, including through his regular reports on compliance with resolution 1160 (1998);

16. Decides, should the concrete measures demanded in this resolution and resolution 1160 (1998) not be taken, to consider further action and additional measures to maintain or restore peace and stability in the region;

17. Decides to remain seized of the matter.
